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Sent: 10/4/2012 3:31:30 PM

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CC:

Subject: Office of Public Affairs' Salient Issues for Week Ending October 5, 2012

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – SALIENT EVENTS

Week Ending October 5, 2012

Regional Administrator Presents \$400,000 Brownfields Grant to the City of Waynesboro --

At a press event on Monday, October 1, 2012, Regional Administrator Garvin presented the City of Waynesboro, Virginia, with \$400,000 in Brownfields funding for environmental site assessments. Joining the RA Shawn Garvin this event was Waynesboro Mayor Bruce Allen and other City officials. Media coverage included a news segment on the NBC affiliate station, articles in the Staunton News Leader and Waynesboro Virginian newspapers, and reporting by WSVA radio. Region 3's press release and tweet also resulted in additional follow-up articles. (Joan Schafer, 814-5143; Bonnie Smith, 814-5543; Jennie Saxe, 814-5806)

Regional Administrator Tours Small Business Innovation Research Grantee Facility - On October 1, RA Garvin toured Luna Innovations, in Blacksburg, Va. Luna Innovations was the recipient of a 2012 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant for the development of non-formaldehyde bio-based resins for wood adhesives. In combination with past SBIR grants, Luna has received over \$300,000 in EPA SBIR funding.
(Joan Schafer, 814-5143; Jennie Saxe, 814-5806)

Regional Administrator Presents Wetlands Grant to Virginia Institute of Marine Science - On October 2, RA Garvin presented the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) with \$999,640 in wetland program development grant funding at a press conference. This grant funding will be used to improve the understanding and protection of headwater resources in Virginia. VIMS, located in Gloucester Point, Va., is the graduate college of marine science in the college of William and Mary. The Dean/Director of VIMS, Dr. John Wells, and other College officials participated in the program. Media coverage of the event included articles in the Virginian Pilot, Richmond Times Dispatch, Williamsburg-Yorktown Daily and Newport News,

Waynesboro Daily and Virginia Gazette newspapers. (Joan Schafer, 814-5143; Donna Heron, 814-5113; Jennie Saxe, 814-5806)

Regional Administrator Meets with Staff from the Elizabeth River Project - On October 2, RA Garvin met with Marjorie Mayfield Jackson, Executive Director of the Elizabeth River Project (ERP), and other ERP staff to learn about the work the organization is doing to restore the Elizabeth River. The RA also visited Paradise Creek Nature Park, a new 40-acre urban park, and ERP's learning barge in Norfolk. (Joan Schafer, 814-5143; Jennie Saxe, 814-5806)

Baltimore Sun Covered EPA Enforcement Settlement with Olson Wire Products over Alleged Hazardous Waste Violations - In addition, Waste Recycling News and more than 10 websites carried the story. Olson Wire was fined \$80,000 for violating the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the federal law governing the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. (Donna Heron, 814-5113)

Reporter Calls for Background Information on Air Aggregation - Reporter Susan Phillips from the State Impact Pennsylvania website and WHYY-Radio interviewed APD's Kathleen Cox for background information on the complicated policy of using aggregation to determine the need for Clean Air Act permits. This policy involves combining multiple, related physical or operational changes in a single project to determine whether a permit is needed. The reporter has since written several articles on this subject including an October 4 article on a lawsuit filed last by the Clean Air Council against the state Department of Environmental Protection about permits to the former Sunoco facilities in Philadelphia and Marcus Hook. (Roy Seneca, 814-5567)

New News Popping up about Hydrofracking Issues in Dimock, Pa. - Reporters Laura Legere from the Scranton Times-Tribune and Mark Drajem from Bloomberg News Service each had articles last week focusing on how a process known as isotopic testing has shown that methane found in drinking water wells in Dimock, Pa. could be directly linked to natural gas produced by hydraulic fracturing activities. (Terri White, 814-5523; Roy Seneca, 814-5567)

Radio Story on the start of the Pumping Operations for Crossley Farms Treatment Plant - Dave Langley, WEEU radio in Reading interviewed RPM Roy Schrock about the long-anticipated start-up of the pumping operations. WEEU has covered the progress at Crossley Farms for years, including the July opening of the Treatment Plant. Responding to a community request, EPA's HSDC sent members of the local media and the community a post card letting them know that the pumping operations for the treatment system would begin operation following October 1. (Bonnie Smith, 814-5543)

First Media Call on EPA's Breach of Confidential Information - In response to a letter and press release from Senator Bob Casey we received a press call from a local radio station asking why EPA would have citizen's bank numbers and social security numbers. Following the strategy, we referred the call to HQ. The WEUU radio station is in Reading, Pa. (Bonnie Smith, 814-5543)

Pittsburgh TV station following up on USA Today's series - WPXI-TV in Pittsburgh is doing an investigative story about the six lead smelters in Pittsburgh that were featured in USA Today's series. The reporter is especially interested in two of the former lead smelting operations that are near residential neighborhoods and the potential effect they may have on children's health. We are just beginning our response and will coordinate with HQ OPA. (Bonnie Smith, 814-5543)

PRESS RELEASES

Sep. 28 U.S. Settles Clean Water Act Case for Wetlands Violations in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
(White)

Navy Agrees to Fixes to Public Water Supply at DC Military Base (Sternberg)

EPA Orders Swamp Angel Energy to Pay Penalty for Unauthorized Disposal of Brine Water
(Sternberg)

Oct. 1 EPA Grant Aids Waynesboro Downtown Redevelopment (Smith)

Settlement Reached with Mobile Home Park Owners over Drinking Water and Waste Water
Violations (White)

Oct. 2 Olson Wire Products Co., Inc. Settles Hazardous Waste Violations at the Baltimore Facility
(Heron)

York County Company Settles Hazardous Waste Violations at its Glen Rock, Pa. Manufacturing
Facility (Heron)

EPA Awards Nearly \$1 Million to Protect Virginia's Wetlands and Aquatic Ecosystems (Heron)